

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <b>BEST ANTHONY JAMES</b>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <b>1775 SHERMAN STREET</b> <b>SUITE 1200</b>  (Street) <b>DENVER CO 80203</b>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>SM Energy Co [ SM ]</b>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <b>CEO &amp; President</b>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <b>08/01/2011</b>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2011		M <sup>(1)</sup>		18,689	A	(1)	77,093	D	
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2011		F		7,678	D	\$75.56	69,415	D	
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2011		M		5,000	A	(2)	74,415	D	
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2011		F		2,054	D	\$75.56	72,361	D	

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Amount or Number of Shares
Performance Share Award	(1)	08/01/2011		M <sup>(1)</sup>		18,689		08/01/2011 <sup>(1)</sup>	08/01/2011 <sup>(1)</sup>	Common Stock	18,689	\$0 <sup>(1)</sup>	0	D	
Restricted Stock Units	(2)	08/01/2011		M		5,000		08/01/2011	08/01/2011	Common Stock	5,000	\$0	9,999	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. On August 1, 2011, the issuer issued 18,689 shares of common stock to the reporting person in a settlement conversion of a performance share award (the "PSA") reported in a Form 4 for the reporting person filed on July 29, 2011. The PSA represented the right to receive, upon the settlement of the PSA, the determined number of earned shares of the issuer's common stock based on the achievement of performance criteria, to the extent that the PSA had vested under separate employment service vesting provisions. The PSA became fully vested and was settled in accordance with its terms on 08/01/2011.

2. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of stock. The restricted stock unit grant vests as follows: 2,501 shares on 8/1/10, 5,000 shares on 8/1/11 and 9,999 shares on 8/1/12. The vested shares will be issued to the reporting person on the vesting dates, at which time all restrictions on the vested shares will lapse.

**Remarks:**

Karin M. Writer (Attorney-In-Fact)

08/02/2011

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.